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Contributors, subscribers and readers will find important information on the sixteenth advertising page following the reading matter.

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DOCTORS, ATTENTION! IS YOUR STATE TAX PAID?

The California legislature, with the endorsement of the Governor, has put on the statute book a requirement that every physician and surgeon practicing in California shall pay an annual tax of two dollars, this fund to go to the State Board of Medical Examiners to assist in the enforcement of the Medical Practice Act. This tax becomes delinquent annually if not paid by March 1. If not paid, the certificate to practice medicine and surgery is subject to revocation. Reinstatement, according to the statute, requires a payment of ten dollars. Every doctor was duly notified from the office of the State Board of Medical Examiners. Due notice was also given in the columns of the Journal. Doctors in military service were exempted, provided they filed proper affidavit.

Regardless of our personal opinion as to the justice of this tax, it should and must be paid. There is a long and formidable list of delinquents. *Are you delinquent?* If you are, it will cost you ten dollars to be restored to good standing. Circumstances may suddenly make it of extreme importance to you that you be in good standing. Be sure your tax is paid. Do it now.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND THE DOCTOR.

It is a genuine pleasure to receive and be able to publish the cordial, frank and reassuring letter from Bishop Coadjutor Edward L. Parsons, of the Episcopal Church, which appears in another column. The medical profession is frankly pleased to know that the Episcopal Church "has no intention or desire of undertaking healing in any sense independently of the medical profession"; also that "the Episcopal Church is undertaking nothing officially which could not at any time be submitted to any group of physicians who recog-

nize the value of religion in life, with confident expectation of their approval." The Bishop's statement should be taken at face value and will meet with widespread approbation when he says further: "I would be unwilling myself to be associated in any movement which did not recognize in the fullest way the leadership of the medical profession in matters of health."

The original Journal criticism of an Episcopal clergyman who maintains a downtown office on week days where he receives patients for psychic therapy, while on Sundays he preaches in an Episcopal church is, however, still valid. It would appear that an official representative of the Episcopal clergy could hardly, with propriety, change coats so fast. His clerical ministrations must perforce serve as a feeder for his private practice at substantial fee-rates. In the past he has at least once been brought to trial for alleged infringement of the Medical Practice Act. We believe, in the light of Bishop Parsons's frank statement of Episcopal Church policy, that a source of serious and valid criticism of the church would be removed if this situation were remedied. The official mantle of the church should not envelop one who turns it to personal profit and who does not exemplify the admirable program outlined in the Bishop's letter.

EDDIAN SCIENCE SINGULAR SANITARIUM "CERTAIN CASES NOT RECEIVED."

The JOURNAL has received a communication from Mr. Peter V. Ross in which, among other strange statements, he asserts that the followers of Mrs. Eddy are entitled to wear "the Christian pearl of charity," because they maintain a well-equipped sanitarium in Boston.

Since according to Mrs. Eddy, "what is termed disease does not exist. It is neither mind nor matter," our readers will naturally wonder why

the disciples of Mrs. Eddy have established a "well-equipped sanitarium." They have not only established it, but in their literature they call it "a step of progress." This would seem to be a literal use of the words, as only one step has been taken thus far. The alleged sanitarium has been appropriately placed upon Single Tree Hill in the suburbs of Boston near the mother church. The treasurer's annual report of the Benevolent Association that has charge of "the sanitarium" for the year ending December 31, 1919, shows a total for the construction of building, improvement of grounds, furniture, administrative and operating expense, etc., of \$586,253.37. The official statement also says that the association can offer many beautiful testimonials of healing, although in analyzing the report we find that of the 73 patients admitted during the three months of operation, 40 are still there, and whether the remaining 33 are still in the land of the living is not definitely reported.

The purpose of this singular sanitarium, which is Mr. Ross's solitary boast, is stated in the official literature as "a Christian Science resort for the 'so-called sick.'" When these "so-called sick" get so-called sicker and succumb to so-called disease and are so-called dead, a so-called undertaker takes them to a so-called cemetery and there they remain with the vast majority silently awaiting the blessed hope.

It appears that not all of the "so-called sick" are acceptable at the Eddian Single Tree Hill Sanitarium, for the official report announces "certain cases requiring special housing cannot be received in the institution." Why do these "certain cases" require special housing?

Is it possible that the followers of Mrs. Eddy are beginning to discard her doctrines? Mrs. Eddy said: "One disease is no more real than another." This also applies to contagious diseases. Mrs. Eddy is particularly definite upon this subject. "Christian Science," she states, "handles the most malignant contagions with perfect assurance."

Are we to understand that the managers of this "single step of progress" sanitarium have lost Mrs. Eddy's "perfect assurance" and now acknowledge that "certain cases require special housing"? If this be true a real step of progress has been made, which will necessitate, however, the repudiation of the many absurdities contained in "Science and Health" and other writings of Mrs. Eddy.

If the followers of Mrs. Eddy, who operate this so-called sanitarium, are consistent with her doctrines they must tell the applicants for admission that they have no real tuberculosis, no epilepsy, no cancer, no Bright's disease; in brief, no disease. That all of these things are creations of their own imagination. That existence of material bodies and disorders of material bodies is a delusion "a dream of sin, sickness and death." That, as Mrs. Eddy says, "The press by printing long descriptions which mirror images of disease sends forth many sorrows and diseases among the human family. A

new name for an ailment affects people like a Parisian name for a novel garment. Everyone hastens to get it." Those in charge of the solitary sanitarium must tell their patients, according to Mrs. Eddy, that their material human bodies that are tortured by pain have no real existence outside the mind, and that even as existing in the mind, they are delusions, phantom lies told by the mortal mind to itself; the testimony of the five senses to the contrary notwithstanding.

Although Mr. Ross as Chairman of the Christian Science Committee on Publication for Northern California has with others been sued for \$100,000 damages by Trustee David B. Ogden from Brookline, Massachusetts, he is still issuing statements similar to the one sent to the JOURNAL. In the last paragraph of the communication of Mr. Ross he sets forth Mrs. Eddy's ante-Christian theory of disease in these words, "Christian Science insists on destroying not simply the disease but the sin which causes it."

The same cruel and ill-founded theory of the inseparable relation of sin and disease was held by certain pitiless sects before and during Christ's time, until the Master corrected the false theory on an occasion that is told by the Beloved Disciple in these words:

"And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man who was blind from his birth, and his disciples asked him, saying, 'Master, who did sin, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents; but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.'"

The Christian method of abolishing sin is to avoid evil and do good; the Christian method of destroying disease is to find its causes and use all the preventive and curative measures which real science has discovered through long and patient research. The Eddyite alone seems infatuated with the fatuous theory that he really heals that which he claims does not exist.

PUBLIC HEALTH CONVENTION AT SAN FRANCISCO, SEPTEMBER 13-17.

The 49th National Convention of the American Public Health Association will be held in San Francisco September 13-17, and from present indications will bring to California the most distinguished body of health officials that have ever come to the Pacific Coast. This is the first convention that the A. P. H. A. has held west of the Missouri River and for many of the delegates it will be the first visit to California. Our state has long boasted of its healthful attractions and has an opportunity now to exhibit them to scientific men and women who can appraise and appreciate them best.

Not only should all those who are directly and actively engaged in the various forms of public health work attend this convention, but social workers, nurses, hospital superintendents and, of course, members of the medical profession. The program in its general sessions covers a wide field and has special sections devoted to laboratory and